



Urban Farming Boom:
Hydroponics Market on Track
for \$35 Billion by 2030



The global Hydroponics Market is on a robust growth trajectory, projected to reach **\$35.4 billion by 2030**, growing at a **CAGR of 15.6% during the forecast period of 2024–2030**, according to the latest report by Meticulous Research®. This rapid expansion reflects the rising demand for innovative, sustainable farming practices driven by global challenges and evolving consumer preferences.

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Key Market Drivers

- 1. Population Growth and Decline in Arable Land:**
With the global population rising and cultivable land diminishing, hydroponics presents a sustainable alternative, allowing higher crop yields without the need for traditional farmland.
- 2. Changing Climatic Conditions:**
Erratic weather patterns and climate change have fueled the adoption of controlled-environment agriculture, where hydroponics provides a consistent and reliable food supply.
- 3. Urbanization and Fresh Food Demand:**
The growing urban population demands fresh, high-quality food products. Hydroponics systems, especially in urban farming setups, cater to this trend by enabling year-round production of fresh fruits and vegetables.
- 4. Cannabis Cultivation:**
The increasing adoption of hydroponics farming for cannabis cultivation has significantly contributed to the market's expansion, particularly in regions where cannabis is legalized for medical and recreational purposes.
- 5. Chemical-Free Produce:**
Consumers' preference for organic and chemical-free fruits and vegetables further bolsters the market for hydroponic farming.

Opportunities and Challenges

- **Technological Innovations:**
Breakthroughs in hydroponics technology and the growing adoption of urban vertical farming systems provide significant growth opportunities for market players.
- **Challenges:**
Despite its advantages, hydroponics faces challenges such as high capital investments for large-scale farms, the need for skilled management, and limited expertise in developing regions.

Market Segmentation

By Type

- **Non-Aggregate Systems:**
Representing the largest market share in 2024, non-aggregate systems like nutrient film techniques (NFT) and aeroponics eliminate the need for soil, allowing direct nutrient delivery to plants. This boosts growth rates and yields. However, closed systems' reliance on nutrient recirculation heightens the risk of pathogen dispersal.
- **Aggregate Systems:**
Includes ebb and flow systems, drip systems, and wick systems. These systems use solid media like clay pellets or coconut coir for root support and nutrient delivery.

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By Equipment

- **HVAC Systems:**
Expected to dominate the equipment market in 2024, HVAC systems ensure optimal temperature, cooling, and dehumidification, critical for indoor hydroponic farming.
- **LED Grow Lights:**
A vital component for photosynthesis in indoor settings, LED grow lights are gaining traction due to energy efficiency and precise light spectrum control.

By Input

- **Nutrients:**

Nutrients, including nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, are indispensable for hydroponic farming. They are crucial in both aggregate and non-aggregate systems to prevent plant deficiencies.

By Crop Type

- **Vegetables:**

This segment leads the market due to the increasing demand for exotic and premium vegetables, driven by urbanization, higher purchasing power, and preferences for high-quality produce. Restaurants, fast food chains, and catering services are key consumers.

Regional Insights

- **Europe:**

Dominating the global hydroponics market, Europe's leadership is attributed to:

- Advanced technology adoption.
- Scarcity of arable land.
- Strong infrastructure for hydroponics farms.
- Rising government initiatives supporting sustainable farming.

- **Asia-Pacific:**

Rapid urbanization, growing population, and the increasing adoption of hydroponics systems in China, Japan, and India drive growth in this region.

- **North America:**

The U.S. leads with significant advancements in hydroponics systems, catering to high demand for fresh produce.

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Competitive Landscape

Key players in the hydroponics market include: Argus Control Systems Ltd. (Canada), Signify Holding B.V. (Netherlands), The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company (U.S.), Hydroponic Systems International (Spain), Hydrodynamics International Inc (U.S.), AmHydro (U.S.), Emerald Harvest (U.S.), Heliospectra AB (Sweden), Freight Farms, Inc. (U.S.), Logiqs BV (Netherlands), AirLogix (U.S.), and Nutriculture Grow Systems (U.K), among others.

These companies focus on technological innovations, strategic partnerships, and geographical expansions to gain a competitive edge.

Conclusion

Hydroponics represents a pivotal shift in agricultural practices, addressing food security, sustainability, and urbanization challenges. With strong growth prospects, advancements in technology, and increasing consumer demand, the hydroponics market is poised for transformative growth, shaping the future of global agriculture.

Contact Us:

Meticulous Research®

Email- sales@meticulousresearch.com

Contact Sales- +1-646-781-8004

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